

**Abstract 164**

**TITLE:** HIV Associated TB in the ERA of HAART

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**BACKGROUND/OBJECTIVES:** The HIV epidemic has been responsible for the resurgence of tuberculosis (TB) in the United States. In order to determine the effect of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) on the incidence of TB among HIV infected persons, we examined data from a large observational prospective cohort study from January 1996 through June 1998, the time period when HAART was coming in to use. We also examined trends in TB among HIV-infected persons January 1992 through June 1998.

**METHODS:** Multivariate Poisson regression was used to model the incidence of TB while controlling for HIV-exposure mode, race, country of birth, CD4 count, TB preventive therapy, and half-year of diagnosis.

**RESULTS:** From January 1996 through June 1998, 101 cases of TB occurred 16,035 person-years (6.3 cases/1000 person-years [py], 95% confidence interval [CI] 5.1 -7.5 cases/1 000 py). In multivariate analysis, the risk of TB was much lower among persons prescribed HAART (RR=0.2, 95% CI 0.1 -0.4), and also lower among persons prescribed other antiretroviral therapy (RR=0.6, 95% CI 0.4 -0.9), than the risk in persons not prescribed antiretroviral therapy. TB rates decreased from January 1992 through June 1998 ( $p < .001$ ) in the total study population and in each treatment group.

**CONCLUSIONS:** HAART reduced the risk of TB by 80% in HIV-infected persons. Widespread use of HAART could help control the TB epidemic among persons infected with HIV.

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